

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as shown below. The claims, as currently pending in the application, read as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) An image processing apparatus comprising:
  - an input unit which inputs first image information to be printed on a recording medium and second image information to be stored in a storage device which is attached to the recording medium;
  - a printer which prints an image on the recording medium to which the storage device is attached, wherein the image is based on the first image information;
  - a writing unit which writes the second image information, first authentication information for printing a first level ~~range~~ of the second image information and second authentication information for printing a second level ~~range~~ of the second image information to the storage device attached to the recording medium;
  - a reading unit which reads the second image information, the first authentication information and the second authentication information which have been stored in the storage device attached to the recording medium on which the image based on the first image information has been printed; and
  - a user authentication information input unit which inputs user authentication information,
- wherein said printer prints an image based on the first level ~~range~~ of the second image information read by said reading unit if the input user authentication information corresponds to the first authentication information, and prints an image based

on the second ~~range~~ level of the second image information read by said reading unit if the input user authentication information corresponds to the second authentication information.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Previously Presented) An image processing apparatus according to Claim 1, further comprising a display unit which displays an image based on the second image information read by said reading unit.

4. (Previously Presented) An image processing apparatus according to Claim 3, further comprising an instruction unit which instructs said printer to perform printing based on the image displayed by said display unit.

5. to 6. (Cancelled)

7. (Currently Amended) An image processing method comprising:  
using a processor to perform:  
an input step of inputting image information including a first image information to be printed on a recording medium and a second image information to be stored in a storage device which is attached to the recording medium;  
a first printing step of printing an image based on the first image information input in said input step on the recording medium to which the storage device is attached;

a writing step of writing the second image information, first authentication information for printing a first level range of the second image information and second authentication information for printing a second level range of the second image information to the storage device attached to the recording medium;

a reading step of reading the second image information, the first authentication information and the second authentication which have been stored in the storage device attached to the recording medium on which the image based on the first image information has been printed;

a user authentication information input step of inputting user authentication information;

a second printing step of printing an image based on the first level range of the second image information read in said reading step if the input user authentication information corresponds to the first authentication information; and

a third printing step of printing an image based on the second level range of the second image information read in said reading step if the input user authentication information corresponds to the second authentication information.

8. (Cancelled).

9. (Currently Amended) A non-transitory computer-readable storage medium retrievably storing a computer-executable program, said program comprising:

an input step of inputting image information including a first image information to be printed on a recording medium and a second image information to be stored in a storage device which is attached to the recording medium;

a first printing step of printing an image based on the first image information input in said input step on the recording medium to which the storage device is attached;

a writing step of writing the second image information, first authentication information for printing a first level range of the second image information and second authentication information for printing a second level range of the second image information to the storage device attached to the recording medium;

a reading step of reading the second image information, the first authentication information and the second authentication information which have been stored in the storage device attached to the recording medium on which the image based on the first image information has been printed;

a user authentication information input step of inputting user authentication information;

a second printing step of printing an image based on the first level range of the second image information read in said reading step if the input user authentication information corresponds to the first authentication information; and

a third printing step of printing an image based on the second level range of the second image information read in said reading step if the input user authentication information corresponds to the second authentication information.

10. (Currently Amended) An image processing apparatus comprising:

a printer which prints an image;

a reading unit which reads image information, first authentication information for printing a first level range of the image information and second

authentication information for printing a second level range of the image information,  
wherein the image information, the first authentication information and the second  
authentication information are stored in a storage device attached to a recording  
medium;[[,]]

a user authentication information input unit which inputs user authentication  
information; and

a controller which controls said printer to print an image based on the first  
level range of the image information read by said reading unit if the input user  
authentication information corresponds to the first authentication information, and which  
controls said printer to print an image based on the second level range of the image  
information read by said reading unit if the input user authentication information  
corresponds to the second authentication information.

11. (Currently Amended) An image processing apparatus comprising:

an input unit which inputs first image information to be printed on a  
recording medium and second image information to be stored in a storage device which is  
attached to the recording medium;

a printer which prints an image on the recording medium to which the  
storage device is attached, wherein the image is based on the first image information;

a writing unit which writes the second image information and first  
authentication information for printing a first level range of the second image information  
to the storage device;

a reading unit which reads each of the second image information and the  
first authentication information which have been stored in the storage device attached to

the recording medium on which the image based on the first image information has been printed; and

a user authentication information input unit which inputs user authentication information,

wherein said printer prints an image based on the first level ~~range~~ of the second image information if the user authentication information is input and the input user authentication information corresponds to the first authentication information read by the reading unit, and prints an image based on a second level ~~range~~ of the second image information if the user authentication information is not input.

12. (Currently Amended) An image processing apparatus comprising:

a printer which prints an image;

a reading unit which reads each of image information and first authentication information for printing a first level ~~range~~ of the image information, wherein the image information and the first authentication information are stored in a storage device attached to a recording medium;

a user authentication information input unit which inputs user authentication information; and

a controller which controls said printer to print an image based on the first level ~~range~~ of the image information if the user authentication information is input and the input user authentication information corresponds to the first authentication information read by the reading unit, and controls the printer to print an image based on a second level ~~range~~ of the image information if the user authentication information is not input.